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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/930,705	06/29/2001	Hao A. Chen	3063.0398-01	3770

22852 7590 07/01/2002

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP
1300 I STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

DIXON, MERRICK L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1774

DATE MAILED: 07/01/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 1774

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The Group and/or Art Unit location of your application in the PTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Group Art Unit 1774.

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Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-13 and 31-53 are are, drawn to a resilient surface covering, classified in class 428, subclass .543
- II. Claims 14-30 and 54-59 are, drawn to method to improve wear resistance, classified in class 156, subclass 73.1.

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The inventions are distinct, each from the other because:

Inventions II and I are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the product as claimed can be made by a materially different process such as one that apply the layers via pressure means.

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Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

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Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

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A telephone call was made to applicant's attorney, L. Troili on 2-12-02 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

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Crystal Plaza Three Fax Center

A facsimile center has been established in Crystal Plaza 3. The hours of operations are Mondays through Friday, 8:45 to 4:45 PM. This new location should be used in all instances when faxing

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any correspondence to Group 1700. The Patent Examining Fax Center new telecopier numbers are (703) 305-3599 for all After Finals and 703-305-5408 for all others. Use of the new Crystal Plaza 3 center will facilitate rapid delivery of materials to the group. The faxing of all papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 O.G. 30 (November 15, 1989).

New! Applicants who wish to send a facsimile (draft copies) for the examiner's immediate review can now do so by using the Examiner Dixon's personal fax number at 703-872-9514. **NOTE: All facsimiles sent to the examiner's personal fax number should be in draft-forms and will be treated as informal. Same facsimiles will not be entered in the related applications unless otherwise noted by the examiner.**

Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose number is (703)308-2351.

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Any questions concerning the instant communication should be directed to Examiner Dixon, at 703-308-0013, Mondays to Thursdays, between 12 noon and 6 PM, eastern time .



Merrick Dixon

Primary Examiner

Group 1700